

Minutes
of the
Twenty-Fifth
Annual Convention

of the
Lutheran Brotherhood
of the
Evangelical Lutheran Synod
of Nebraska

of the
United Lutheran Church
in America



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA
May 4, 1942

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THE MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN SYNOD OF NEBRASKA OF THE UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA. HELD IN ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, FALLS CITY, NEBRASKA, MAY 3-4, 1942.

In commemoration of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary of the Nebraska Brotherhood, a Vesper Service was held in St. Paul's Church, Sunday Evening, May 3, 1942 at 6:30 p. m. The Rev. A. H. Pinkall, St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Omaha, Nebraska, in charge. A lunch and fellowship hour followed.

The Twenty-Fifth Annual Convention of the Brotherhood of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska convened in the St. Paul's Lutheran Church at Falls City, Nebraska, the Rev. H. C. Cordts, Pastor, on May 4th, 1942 at 3:30 p. m.

President Wm. F. Kedde, Omaha, Nebraska, presiding, called the Convention to order asking the Rev. John S. Rhine, Pastor of Trinity and Grace Congregations of Dalton and Gurley, Nebraska, to lead the opening devotions, following the singing of hymn 424, "God Himself Is Present," Rev. Rhine used as his text, the Thirteenth Chapter of I Samuel beginning at the third verse.

Greetings were extended by the Local Chairman of the Convention Committee, Mr. Max Mez, who welcomed the group to Falls City, and to St. Paul's Church.

President Kedde announced the following Committees:

Nominations:

Rev. E. F. Rohlfsing, Chairman, Broadwater
Arthur Sudman, North Platte
E. M. Berggren, South Sioux City

President's Report:

Dr. L. H. Leshner, Chairman, Lincoln
Harold G. Gamerl, Omaha
V. B. Elseffer, Omaha

Resolutions:

Rev. H. J. Goede, Chairman, Omaha
W. A. Heuer, Omaha

Auditors:

D. G. Barber, Chairman, Lincoln
A. F. Bade, Lincoln
Donald Hill, Lincoln

Constitution:

D. L. Tyrrell, Chairman, Lincoln
O. L. Sturtevant, Lincoln
Herman Studier, Lincoln
R. M. Hansen, Lincoln

The President's report contained many items of interest. Mr. Kedde, being a member of the Executive Committee of the U. L. C. A. Brotherhood, visited many Brotherhoods outside our own Synod the past year. These visits were included in his report. The entire report showing his keen interest in the work and prayerful wish for a great future.

The President of the Nebraska Synod, Dr. J. C. Hershey, Fremont, Nebraska, extended greetings and best wishes for the continued success of the work of the Brotherhood.

Twelve Delegates answered roll call. Their reports were most interesting and encouraging, showing that the men of the Brotherhood were doing much for the Church and what it stands for. There were also reports from visiting delegates which proved that our churches without organized Brotherhoods have the work in mind.

Rev. H. J. Goede, Omaha, Nebraska, presented a beautiful tribute in memory of Mr. Harold W. Ockerby, Secretary of the National Convention Committee, recently deceased, saying that he was sure Mr. Ockerby spent ninety percent of his spare time working for the welfare of his church. The Convention assembled, stood in silent tribute as Dr. J. C. Hershey led in prayer.

The minutes of the last meeting were read by the Secretary D. L. Tyrrell, being approved as read were placed on file. Greetings from Executive Secretary Earl W. Bader, President Fred S. Walter of the Midwest Synodical Brotherhood and Rev. H. Dumler were read.

Mr. Harold L. Wochner, Treasurer, presented his annual report, reporting a balance on hand of \$45.53 as of May 4, 1942 being duly audited and found correct, moved, accepted and placed on file.

Committee on President's Report:

We, the Committee on the President's Report have read the records of his activities on behalf of our State Brotherhood with deep appreciation. We heartily commend Mr. Kedde for his consecrated services and untiring efforts, both as our Synodical President and as a member of the National Executive Committee (averaged about two meetings per month). We recommend that the President's Report be adopted as presented and that the Convention express its gratitude to Mr. Kedde for his many years of service by a rising vote of thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

The Committee on President's Report.

One of the recommendations in the President's Report of 1941 was, that a committee be appointed to re-

vise the present Constitution and By-Laws, and present the proposed Constitution and By-Laws to the Twenty-Fifth Annual Convention. This committee was appointed and presented the New Constitution and By-Laws for adoption, after reading by the Secretary there were some corrections. It was moved and seconded that the corrections be made and adopt it as a whole, motion carried.

The Nominating Committee's report was as follows:

President, D. L. Tyrrell, Lincoln

Vice-President, Harold L. Wochner, York

Secretary, Anton Manser, West Point

Due to the fact that some of the men originally nominated, declined and also could not be present, the nominations were somewhat revised before the Convention was called to order, there being no Treasurer nominated, Mr. W. A. Heuer of Omaha, Nebraska, was nominated from the floor. The candidates were elected individually by motions and seconds from the floor, the President to cast a unanimous ballot for each one as elected, carried and placed on file.

The President elect appointed Dr. A. O. Frank, Fremont, Nebraska, and Arthur R. Sudman North Platte, Nebraska, as members of the Executive Committees.

Mr. Wm. F. Kedde, the retiring President, congratulated the new officers and wished them much success, voicing his willingness to be of whatever service might be asked of him.

The motion was made that the Executive Committee appoint Mr. Kedde as the official delegate to the National Convention in Louisville in October, also naming an alternate, carried and placed on file.

Dr. G. Keller Rubrecht led in the closing prayer and Benediction following the adjournment of the afternoon meeting.

With the singing of the Brotherhood Song, "The Sign of the Cross and the Heart," the evening meeting and banquet got under way.

Invocation, Dr. A. O. Frank, Fremont, Nebraska.

President Wm. F. Kedde, introduced the Toastmaster, Mr. O. Wince, Omaha, Nebraska.

The Falls City High School Girls' Sextette presented several vocal numbers followed by an instrumental mixed trio of little folks.

Rev. G. Gieschen, Wayne, Nebraska, led the group in singing, with Rev. H. J. Goede, Omaha, at the piano. Rev. Gieschen having written one of the songs, "Silver Jubilee Song."

The offering taken, to be sent to National Headquarters, amounted to \$24.58. The offertory prayer, by Dr. Rinde, Fremont, Nebraska.

Miss Arlene Zenter of Falls City favored with several vocal numbers. Rev. Gieschen led more group singing and also favored with a vocal solo.

Dr. J. C. Hershey, Fremont, President of Synod, was in charge of the installation of the new officers.

Dr. Leland H. Leshner, Grace Church, Lincoln, Nebraska, gave the address of the evening, being enthusiastically received by the some one hundred people present. Dr. Leshner using as his Theme, "The Great Crusade."

The Report of the Resolutions Committee was as follows:

Be it resolved:—

1. That the host Congregation and Pastor Cordts and the women of the church serving the banquet, receive the wholehearted thanks of the Brotherhood for their fine hospitality and accommodations.

2. That we express thanks and appreciation to the speaker, Dr. L. H. Leshner for his inspiring message, to the toastmaster, Mr. O. Wince, to the song leader, Rev. G. Gieschen, to the local talent presenting the fine musical numbers, and to Rev. John Rhine for his opening message to the Convention.

3. That the publication of the activities of this organization be continued as stated in the 1941 minutes.

The motion and second for the adoption of this report as a whole prevailed.

C. A. Robertson, D. D., President of the Kentucky-Tennessee Synod and Dr. C. P. Harry were special guests at the banquet.

The meeting was adjourned with the singing of "Blessed Be the Tie That Binds." Dr. Thomas D. Rinde, Fremont, Nebraska, offering prayer and the Benediction.

Respectfully submitted,
D. L. Tyrrell, Secretary

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT 1941-42

To the officers, delegates and members of the Nebraska Synodical Lutheran Brotherhood, of the United Lutheran Church in America:

Paul wrote to the Corinthians the following words I Corinthians 15:58: "Therefore my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

I must confess that often during the year of being your president, the above words have been an inspiration and a help. Many times there was a feeling and thought in my mind, "Just as well give up, there is no response, the men are not awakening to the work,

purpose and program of the Brotherhood, the Men's Auxiliary of the Church." We cannot see with the physical eye the result of our labor, but the assurance is there that it is not in vain. Many bonds of Christian fellowship were established, which will be into eternity. And the God of peace will be with us in the years to come, so we may be a blessing to others, and to the furthering of His Kingdom.

Perhaps you will note in this report many of the activities of your president were outside of the Nebraska Brotherhood during this year. This was necessary since as a member of the Executive Committee of the U. L. C. A. Brotherhood, we have to serve all Brotherhoods in this territory, regardless of their Synodical affiliations.

We have come to the Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Nebraska Synodical Brotherhood. It had a small beginning, which under the able leadership of different men has developed into a strong organization. It may not be in numbers, however, strong in Spiritual conviction. There may not have been great achievements, the greatest was that we were able to entertain the convention of the National Brotherhood in 1940. The eyes of the East are still upon us, and we are considered one of the leading parts of the National organization. Let us therefore not rest on the past, but keep on doing the best we can, and above all: "To Bring the Unsaved to Christ." A great future is ahead of us, which only can be obtained by work and prayer. Therefore may I ask you to give your full support to the men who will be your officers for the years to come.

May I herewith express my thanks to all who so faithfully have helped me in all difficulties. The officers of the Synod, the officers and Executive committee, and all those who have worked on the different committees. Without their help it would have been impossible to accomplish anything.

Unto God the Father and Our Lord Jesus Christ be the Glory forever.

Your president was in the following places.

May 21st—was called to St. John's Brotherhood in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in regards to affiliation with the National organization.

June 3rd—Inter-Synodical Rally of all Lutheran Brotherhoods in Omaha.

June 10th—Visited together with Secretary Tyrrell, the Brotherhood of Frieden's Church in Lincoln—Midwest Synod.

June 14th—Attended the Executive Committee meeting in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

June 24th—Was asked to speak to the men of the Brotherhood in Missouri Valley, Iowa.

July 16th—As pinchhitter at a Brotherhood meeting of Salem Church—A. L. C.—Omaha.

July 23rd—Attended the Brotherhood meeting at St. Luke's—Omaha.

August 9th—Attended the Synodical officers convention in Pittsburgh Pennsylvania.

August 31st—Spoke in the morning services at Dalton and Gurley and in the evening to a Men's Rally in Broadwater.

September 7th—Gave a talk at a Brotherhood Rally of the Midwest Synod District in Hooper.

September 12th—Was called by telephone to speak to the Brotherhood of St. John's Church in Des Moines, Iowa.

September 14th—Invited to speak to the men of the Brotherhood, St. Luke's congregation and to organize a Brotherhood in Trinity Church, both in Sioux City, Iowa.

September 15th—Attended the Brotherhood meeting of St. Luke's—Emerson.

September 17th—Was in the meeting of St. John's Brotherhood in Council Bluffs, Iowa, in regards to their forming a Synodical Brotherhood.

October 7th—Was the speaker at the first convention banquet of the Midwest Synodical Brotherhood—Ohiowa, Nebraska.

November 6 and 7—Attended the convention of the American Federation of Lutheran Brotherhoods in Chicago, Illinois.

November 9th—Attended the Brotherhood Sunday services with Secretary Tyrrell, in York.

November 12th—Inter-Synodical Brotherhood Rally in Omaha.

1942

April 12th—Was in Falls City to meet the committee of St. Paul's Church in regards to this convention.

April 14th—Inter Synodical Brotherhood Rally in Omaha.

April 20th—Attended St. Luke's Brotherhood meeting—Omaha.

April 21st—Spoke to the Students and Pastors of Western Seminary—Fremont.

Your president was elected for two terms as Chairman of the Inter-Synodical Lutheran Brotherhoods in Omaha, who have twice each year a rally in one of the Lutheran Churches. This is to bring the Lutheran men of all Synodical bodies in closer contact and fellowship, which is a step in the right direction towards a Lutheran unity.

May I make the following recommendations for your consideration.

That the Minutes of this meeting, Treasurer's and President's report, be printed in the Minutes of the Nebraska Synod for the year 1942.

Let us redeem the time while the days are evil, forgetting all that which is behind, striving for the upbuilding of the Kingdom of Christ Jesus, who is King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

The blessing of the Lord be with you always.

Respectfully submitted,
Wm. F. Kedde

TREASURER'S REPORT

Receipts

April 28, 1941 Balance on Hand.....	\$ 92.18
April 28, 1941 Collection at Banquet	29.74
May 5, 1941 First Lutheran, North Platte	
State and National Dues.....	10.00
October 20, 1941 First Lutheran, North Platte	
1942 State and National Dues	10.00
March 2, 1942 Grace Lutheran, West Point	
State and National Dues	12.50
March 23, 1942 St. Luke's, Omaha State and National	12.50
March 23, 1942 Grace Lutheran, Lincoln State Dues.....	5.00
April 18, 1942 Messiah Lutheran, Broadwater	
State and National Dues.....	8.00
April 23, 1942 St. Luke's, Emerson State and National Dues....	10.00
April 24, 1942 Redeemer, Omaha State and National Dues....	10.00
April 25, 1942 First Lutheran, York State	5.00
April 25, 1942 Salem Lutheran, Fremont State Dues	5.00
May 4, 1942 Zion Lutheran, Benedict, 1942 Dues	10.00
Total Receipts	\$219.92

Disbursements

May 3, 1941 Carl O. Lof, Speaker at Banquet.....	\$ 5.00
May 5, 1941 Bader, Collection at Banquet	29.74
May 5, 1941 Bader, Dalton-Gurley State to Nat'l.....	.50
May 22, 1941 Bader, First Lutheran, North Platte.....	5.50
September 1, 1941 Wm. F. Kedde, Expense to Pittsburgh.....	15.00
September 1, 1941 D. L. Tyrrell, Expense to Pittsburgh	25.00
September 1, 1941 H. L. Wochner, Expense to Pittsburgh.....	25.00
October 25, 1941 Bader, First Lutheran, North Platte.....	5.50
January 5, 1942 F. E. Wood, Brotherhood Minn. in Synod Minn.	28.00
March 24, 1942 Bader, Grace, West Point, St. Luke's, Omaha	16.00
March 24, 1942 A. B. Printing Co., 500 Membership Cards	4.65
April 25, 1942 Bader, Messiah, Broadwater, St. Luke's, Emerson, Redeemer, Omaha	14.50
Total Disbursements	\$174.39
Total Receipts	\$219.92
Total Disbursements	174.39
Balance on Hand	\$ 45.53

Postage and Transportation donated by the members of the Executive Committee.

This Report Audited by D. G. Barber, Al Bade and Don Hill, of Grace Lutheran Brotherhood, and found correct this 25th day of April, 1942

Respectfully submitted,
Harold L. Wochner
Nebraska Synodical Brotherhood Treasurer.



CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS
of the
BROTHERHOOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN
SYNOD OF NEBRASKA

Adopted at
Falls City, Nebraska, May 4, 1942

ARTICLE I NAME

This organization shall be known as "The Brotherhood of the United Lutheran Church in America" and is established as an integral part of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska.

ARTICLE II OBJECTS

The object of this organization shall be the federation of all men's organizations connected with the congregations of the Brotherhood of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska, and to encourage and assist in the formation of Lutheran Brotherhoods in congregations where there is no organized men's work.

It shall aim through a program of education to promote the effectiveness and welfare of the Synodical Brotherhood, to bring the men of the local Brotherhoods to a clearer conception of the duties, responsibilities and privileges of stewardship in the work of the local congregation, the Synod and the church at large, and to promote the spirit of Christian fellowship among all the men of the Synodical Brotherhood.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the Synodical Brotherhood shall consist of the Brotherhoods and men's organizations established in congregations affiliated with the Brotherhood of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Nebraska, which shall be in sympathy with the objects and the purposes of the organization.

All local brotherhoods and men's organizations affiliated with this Synodical Brotherhood shall use the Joint Dues Plan i.e. that the Treasurer of each local Brotherhood or organization pay dues for State, District and National Brotherhood to our State Treasurer, who will give credit for these dues where it belongs.

State dues of local Brotherhoods shall be the sum of \$5.00 paid annually on or before 30 days prior the annual meeting, to Treasurer of Synodical Brotherhood. This payment of dues shall entitle each local Brotherhood or men's organization to one voting delegate at the annual meeting and to all other benefits derived from membership in the Synodical Brotherhood.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

The officers of the Synodical Brotherhood shall be:

A. President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Literature Secretary.

B. Their duties shall be:

a. President—The President shall preside at all meetings of the Synodical Brotherhood and meetings of the executive Committee and shall appoint all Committees not otherwise provided for. He shall call the meetings of the Executive Committee either on his own volition or at the request in writing of a majority of the members of the Executive Committee. At each annual meeting, he shall render a complete report of the transactions and business motions and resolutions passed by the Synodical Brotherhood. He shall perform all other duties that are incidental to an Executive officer or Executive Committee of the Synodical Brotherhood.

- b. Vice-President—The Vice-President in the absence of the President shall perform the duties of that office. He shall perform such other duties as may be required of him by the President, the Executive Committee or the Synodical Brotherhood.
- c. Secretary—The Secretary shall keep correct records of all the proceedings of the annual and other meetings of the Synodical Brotherhood, and of the Executive Committee, in a book provided for the purpose and shall preserve and file all documents and records not entered in the minutes. He shall keep a correct list of the newly elected members and their addresses. At the request of the President, he shall call all meetings of the Synodical Brotherhood, its Executive committee, as well as its officers. He shall perform such other duties as may be required.
- d. Treasurer—He shall receive and record all moneys such as dues, free-will offerings and from any other sources. He shall send out all membership notices dues. He shall make all such disbursements as the Executive Committee shall provide. He shall make a detailed report to the annual convention of receipts and expenditures. He shall submit all his financial books and paper annually to an auditing committee appointed by the President.
- e. Literature Secretary—He shall send out to all Brotherhoods such literature as he may receive. He shall promote subscriptions to Lutheran Men.

ARTICLE V COMMITTEES

A. There shall be an Executive Committee consisting of the officers and one layman and one Pastor, elected at Convention. The Executive Committee shall have charge of the affairs of the organization between meetings. Prepare the program for each meeting and through the Secretary, notify each Brotherhood and Pastor as to time and place of the meeting.

B. There shall be a Nominating Committee appointed by the President whose duties shall be to present the names of nominees for each office at the annual meeting. Nominations shall also be made from the floor.

C. The following shall be the standing committee to be appointed by the President at the annual Convention each year or within 15 days after,

- a. membership b. press and publicity c. Constitution Committee

ARTICLE VI ELECTIONS

The officers shall be elected by ballot at the Annual meeting and may serve for one year, or until their successors shall have been elected. No officer shall serve any one office more than three (3) consecutive terms.

- a. No two officers can be elected from the same city or county.
- b. No candidate can be elected to any office unless present at the annual convention.

ARTICLE VII APPOINTMENTS

All committee appointments shall be for one year, also the office of Literature Secretary.

ARTICLE VIII FINANCES

All moneys received by the treasurer of the Synodical Brotherhood from dues, freewill offerings, and from any other source shall